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TAGS: CU UNGA PHUM FI
SUBJECT: FINLAND: HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION ON CUBA

REF: STATE 147620

¶1. (U) Embassy delivered subject demarche Oct. 23 to the Finnish MFA's Unit for Human Rights. On Oct. 31 Deputy Director Kirsti Pohjankukka contacted Polchief to offer an update on internal GoF deliberations as well as the GoF's discussions with its EU Partners of subject issue.

¶2. (SBU) Pohjankukka welcomed both the tone and substance of reftel points, including in particular our suggestions for fostering internal dialogue between the GOC and civil society; access for rapporteurs; and political prisoners. She said that there was general consensus within the GoF on the need for "some action" outside the HRC framework on all these issues. She could not yet offer a specific sense of overall EU thinking on these possibilities, but said that there was a "sense" within the EU as well that some measures needed to be put in place on these key human rights issues in the absense of a mechanism with the HRC.

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